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A FEW FACTS

(FOR THOSE WHO DARE TO THINK FOR THEMSELVES,)

ILLUSTRATIVE OF THE THEORY AND PRINCIPLES

OF THE

CHRONO-THERMAL SYSTEM

OF MEDICINE,

DESIGNED AS A REPLY TO THE QUESTION,

“WHAT IS CHRONO-THERMALISM?”

“OMNIUM MORBORUM UNUS ET IDEM MODUS EST.”—*Hippocrates.*
“Felix qui potuit rerum cognoscere causas.”—*Virgil.*

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P R E F A C E.

In compliance with the solicitations of numerous friends, this little work has been prepared. Those who have advised its publication, were of opinion that a brief exposition of the Theory and Principles of the Chrono-Thermal System of medicine, was demanded, to meet the very frequent inquiry "What is Chrono-Thermalism ?

Many of those friends have for years tested the Chrono-Thermal system personally, and in their families—and from this cause, compliance with their solicitations became a question of dutiful acknowledgement. In the discharge of that duty, "multum in parvo" has necessarily been my motto ; and I have endeavored, in brief, to state the leading facts upon which Dr. Dickson's beautiful and harmonious system stands.

INTRODUCTION.

THE Chrono-Thermal system, although first published by Samuel Dickson, M. D., (of London) in the year 1836, has in the short period of fifteen years effected a change in public sentiment, and a modification of the "Regular" practice, unprecedented in the history of medicine.

The reader may naturally inquire, who is Samuel Dickson?

Samuel Dickson was born at Edinburgh, in the year 1802. His father was an eminent barrister, and our author was educated for the bar; but disliking that profession, he commenced the study of medicine, and in 1825 received his diploma in the University of his native city, the Athens of Great Britain. Having been awarded the gold medal for the best essay on the "FOOD of PLANTS,"—he visited France, from whence, after a sojourn of twelve months, he returned to England. Immediately after his return, he received his Commission as a Surgeon in the Medical Staff of the Army, and served with distinction, both at home and abroad, particularly in India, where ample facilities were afforded him, for the study of tropical diseases, and where he also became practically acquainted with Asiatic Cholera. He returned to Europe in the year 1831, took his degree of M. D. at Glasgow, and resigning his Commission in the Army, settled at Cheltenham, where his great success and popularity soon exposed him to the malicious envy and detraction of the profession.

In the year 1829, whilst in India, he published his "Revelations on Cholera," which were republished in the *London Lancet*, in 1831. In 1832, his great work on the "Prevalent Diseases of India," appeared, and as he had hitherto pulled in the Allopathic traces, that work was lauded by the Medical press in terms the most eulogistic. In 1836 he published his first sketch of the Chrono-Thermal system of medicine, under the title of "The Fallacies of the art of Physic as taught by the schools, with new and important principles of practice." In 1838 he republished his *original doctrine* of the "Unity and Periodicity of Disease," and since that time his publications have been equally numerous and important; amongst which we may name "The Chrono-Thermalist, and Medical Truth Teller," a monthly Medical Journal whose circulation already exceeds that of any other Medical Journal extant.

In 1839, Dr. Dickson left Cheltenham for London, and prior to his departure, his friends presented to him a massive and costly service of plate as a testimony of their esteem.

In 1840, he delivered his first course of Lectures, in London, on the "Fallacies of the Faculty, and the Chrono-Thermal System of Medicine;" and so rapidly did the system commend itself to public acceptance, that it is at this time almost dominant; and a "College of Chrono-Thermal medicine" has already been incorporated by an act of the Imperial Parliament of Great Britain.

Some of Dr. Dickson's works have been republished in this country, and all his larger and most important productions have been translated and published in France, Germany, Sweden, Prussia, and Denmark.

The Chrono-Thermal system was *publicly* introduced into the U. S. by William Turner, M. D., of New York. Who is William Turner?

Dr. Turner graduated in the N. Y. State Medical Society. In the year 1840, he received from Governor Seward the office of Health Commissioner for the City and County of New York, and never were the duties and responsibilities of that important trust more faithfully or more ably discharged, than by that gentleman, whom I have the honor to number amongst my friends and constant correspondents.

Dr. Turner was recommended to Gov. Seward, by a professional memorial, bearing the signatures of almost all the magnates of the Allopathic schools of New York. That memorial may be seen in the office of the author of these pages, as also a copy of the annexed:

Albany, February, 12th, 1840.

MY DEAR SIR.—Your favor of the 8th, has been received. I am not aware that there is any necessity for *documentary* proof of your ability and qualifications for the Office of Health Commissioner. Your nomination has already been submitted to the Senate, and I have not the slightest doubt of its confirmation.

Very truly yours,

W. M. TURNER, M. D.

WILLIAM H. SEWARD.

Says the London Medical Enquirer, "at the present moment almost ALL the heads of the medical profession *practice Chrono-Thermalism*:" and amongst the eminent names it gives, we find the following: Sir Benjamin Brodie, Dr. Marshal Hall, Dr. Watson, Dr. Copeland, Dr. Todd, Dr. Ashburner: the two Hollands, and Dr. John Forbes; and the late Sir Astley Cooper publicly approved the system; as also did the late distinguished surgeon—Liston.

In the list of Army surgeons, the following eminent men have written in favor of this system, and are now practical Chrono-Thermalists. Drs. Hume. F. G. Tomlins, Cumming, Lacombe, and a host of others who are not authors: to which may be added full one third of British practitioners.

On the Continent of Europe, the following distinguished men are Chrono-Thermalists; Andral, Gondret and Bichard, Paris: Dictel and Louis, Vienna: Evenhoff and Betou, Sweden: Erstein and Friere, Denmark.

On the American Continent we have Turner, New York: Gwynne, Toronto: Jones, Louisville, Ky.: the venerable J. B. Marsh, Rahway, N. J.: Gale, Tonawanda, N. Y.: Kent, Pawtucket, R. I.: Condict, Washington: T. E. Massey, Mobile: J. T. Walch, Richmond, Va.: Hopkins, Providence, R. I.: Goodale, Watertown, N. Y.: T. D. Mitchell, Lexington, Ky.: Gorrie, Apalachicola: &c., &c., &c.

The whole of the above, were educated in the Allopathic schools; many of the gentlemen named, are renowned for their classical, literary, and professional attainments, and are certainly as competent to judge of the relative merits of Allopathy and Chrono-Thermalism, as the host of little practitioners, who, without either classical, literary, or professional renown, and without any knowledge of the system they denounce, are continually *muttering* that Chrono-Thermalism is a humbug, and its practitioners quacks.

WHAT IS CHRONO-THERMALISM?

In our necessarily brief reply to this frequent inquiry, we ask the reader's candid attention, assured that as soon as the claims of this harmonious and philosophical system are understood, it will at once commend itself to his judgement and acceptance.

1st. CHRONOS is a Greek word signifying time or period; and THERMA another Greek word, meaning heat, or temperature: hence Chrono-Thermalism is the doctrine of Periodicity and Thermal condition.

2d. Chrono-Thermalism teaches the Unity, Periodicity, and consequent intermittency of all disease; nor is this so new a doctrine as you might at first suppose, for more than twenty-three centuries ago, Hippocrates wrote—“omnium morborum unus et idem modus est;” the type of all disease is one and identical. Intermittent Fever, or Ague, is the type of all disease; and every form of disease is only a modification of the primitive type.

3d. There can be no disease without a general constitutional disturbance. Local disease is only a developement or result of a series of constitutional disturbances, determined by predisposition to the weakest part or parts of the body.

4th. Predisposition to disease of one part more than another, is the result of a less degree of cohesion of the atoms of the part, rendering it more liable to disorganization: this predisposition may be hereditary or accidental; whatever injuriously affects the whole body, must in a greater degree affect its weaker parts.

5th. There can be no disease without a *change of motion* of the atoms of the organization; and there can be no change of atomic motion without *change of temperature*. These morbid changes or evidences of *constitutional disturbance* are always periodic and intermittent.

6th. Ague, or Intermittent Fever, is characterized by THREE marked changes of the condition of the body; and its functions and secretions are correspondingly altered. These changes are Chill, Heat, Sweat, and are commonly called the cold, hot, and sweating stages, and their successive occurrence constitutes a paroxysm, or fit—they are always followed by a *periodic intermission*, or regular interval of comparative health.

7th. These stages are Chrono-Thermally called, DEPRESSION, ACCESSION, REACTION, and the Health effort; they are found in every case of disorder—they are the invariable attributes of every developement of disease. Depression is the result of an abnormal, attraction of the atoms of the organ-

ism, and is characteristic of the negative, or electrical state. Accession is abnormal atomic repulsion, and marks the positive, or magnetic state. During the period of Reaction, the life forces are struggling against the disturbance to which they have been subjected; and this struggle develops the Health effort, or period of intermittent equilibrium.

8th. The recurrence of a complete paroxysm is characterized by great uniformity in time or periodicity: fit succeeding fit at the same hour of the day, continuing its successive stages in measured periods, to be again followed by the periodic intermission. Every patient *knows this to be true*, although the "Regulars" affect to deny it.

9th. The intermittent period may continue one, two, three or more days before the recurrence of another similar paroxysm; or the paroxysms may be semi-diurnal; in some cases they may be repeated four times daily: when they so occur, they are called continued fever; but the appellation is a misnomer, for to the eye of the Chrono-Thermalist, the three marked characters of the primitive type are always discernable.

10th. Every person has from birth some portion of his organism less firmly constituted than the other parts; and constitutional disturbance always develops those parts. Several persons shall be exposed to a current of cold air, and what are the results thereof? One, the next day has *headache*: another, pain in the *chest*, *cough*, or spitting of blood: a third, severe pains in the region of the kidneys, with disturbance in passing water: a fourth has general muscular pains; and these effects of one common cause, are by the old school practitioners designated as so many totally distinct diseases, and nosologically christened to *names* which neither they or their patients understand. The current of cold air was the cause of constitutional disturbance in each case, and that disturbance was developed in the greatest degree, at the parts predisposed to disease by their inherent weakness; in the first case the brain was most impressible—in the second, the respiratory organs—in the third, the kidneys and their appendages—in the last, the nerves of sensation.

11th. As the causes of all disease are resolvable into *change of motion* and *change of temperature*—so the power of all remedies is in like manner resolvable; they effect *changes of atomic motion* and *change of temperature*.

12th. Vital Chemistry—Vital Electricity—Vital Magnetism—and Vital Mechanics are the sum total of all the life forces by which all the internal movements of man are periodically produced. Every force in nature will be found, upon analysis, to resolve itself into a *cause of motion*, motion forward, backward, outward, or inward. Chemistry, Electricity, Magnetism, Mechanics—can do no more than this—either by **ATTRACTION** to bring the atoms of matter nearer to each other,—or by **REPULSION**, to increase their distance.

13th. Attraction and repulsion are the two grand forces by which, not the motions of the human organism alone, but the motions of the universe are controlled; and by these forces *and no other* can animal life be influenced

either for good or evil, whatever may be the nature of the agent by which they are called into action.

14th. Remedial means may include every description of force: the bandage, splint, and forceps are examples of the mechanical: the alkalis, acids, and their combinations are illustrations of the chemical: hydrocyanic acid, opium, quinine &c., are instances of electrical action. The latter do not act mechanically, nor is their action marked by chemical change or visible decomposition of the parts upon which their influence is exerted: it must then be admitted that such action is either electrical or magnetic.

15th. Practical philosophers maintain that *all* these forces are *one*; and Mr. Farraday has demonstrated that they are all only modifications of one great central source of power, *the Electrical*.

16th. Electricity can be so applied as to produce *attraction* and *repulsion* in all bodies without any alteration of their constituent nature; and it can also be so applied to almost every compound body as to effect a true chemical decomposition of its constituent elements.

17th. By the agency of Electricity iron can be rendered magnetic, or be deprived of that property; and the polarity of the needle of the compass may by the same agency be reversed or destroyed.

18th. The direct application of this subtle and universal power to the living body, has caused, cured, or aggravated almost every conceivable manifestation of disease, whether it has come in the form of the thunder storm or been artificially induced by the less energetic combinations of human invention. As in the instance of the magnetic needle whose polarity or *motive power* it can induce, reverse, or destroy—so can it also increase, decrease, reverse or destroy each of the functional motions of the various parts or organs of the living body, to which it may, under particular circumstances be applied. It has caused and cured palsy, and strychnia has done the same; like quin'ne and arsenic it has caused and cured the shaking ague; with opium it has produced sleep, stupor, death,—and it has induced restlessness, delirium and maniacy; it has cured cramps and asthma, and induced them, even as prussic acid and nitrate of silver have when administered under similar circumstances.

19th. The foregoing facts are demonstrative that the *action* of medicinal substances is purely electrical: and it also explains why any given remedy may produce opposite results when administered to two patients who are supposed to be suffering under the same nosological disease; and this explanation is unknown to the whole allopathic school.

20th. The power of all medicinal agents is *one* and the *same*, viz., their power of electrically moving the body in some of its parts or atoms—inwards or outwards—according to the previous *vito-electric* state of the brain of the different individuals to whom they may be administered, for through the medium of the brain and nerves do all these agencies primarily act.

21st. The apparently unlike result of the action of various substances de-

pend alone upon the dissimilarity of the functions of the organs they severally influence ; the temperature or part of a living body thus *motively* influenced being in each case correspondingly altered : on the dead, if they exercise any influence at all, it can only be by preventing the putrefactive process, or by causing the opposite result—the chemical decomposition of its various parts : hence an ancient author says,—

“ Medicina non agit in cadaver.”

22d. Medicinal substances exert an influence over one part of the organism in preference to any other, by the same law of Elective affinity which determines the combination of inorganic bodies. Thus opium acts upon the nerves of sensation, and strychnine upon the nerves of muscular motion.

23d. Opium sometimes produces restlessness instead of sleep; and strychnia will in some cases produce paralysis, and in others, wake up to action the paralysed nerves. The atoms of a given portion of the brain of any two individuals thus oppositely influenced by the same medicinal agent, is in an opposite electrical state,—*negative* in the one, and *positive* in the other ; and would not you expect opposite results to be developed, when one remedy is made to act electrically upon two bodies so diametrically opposite? You may demonstrate this fact by a simple experiment ; take three bowls—fill one with *cold*, a second with *hot*, and the third with moderately *warm water* : pluce one hand in the cold water, the other in the hot—retain them therein for a few minutes—then plunge both hands into the bowl of warm water. Now that water will feel cold to the hand which left the hot water, and warm to the one which had been placed in the cold. Thus does the light of Chrono-Thermalism dispel the darkness which has for ages enveloped the action of medicinal agents upon the living body, whilst its teachings strip the practice of medicine of the mysterious jugglery in which pedantic ignorance has heretofore shrouded it.

24th. A remedy perfectly appropriate in one stage of the series of the phases of any disease, is absolutely injurious in each of the other recurring stages : a remedy may be working with the system one hour ; and if repeated four hours afterwards may be working against the laws of periodicity, and thereby aggravating the disease. From this cause disease is perpetuated from week to week, and the patient is made a sicker man by the 'remedies given him. Is it surprising that this should be the case, when neither the nature of the disease or the action of the remedy is understood ?

25th. Ask an Allopathist why opium induces sleep ? and his answer will be “from its narcotic power.” What can be more satisfactory! how greatly it elucidates your enquiry to be told in *Greek* that it produces sleep because it produces sleep ! But when instead of sleep, it induces restlessness or delirium where is its *narcotic* power ? Why does Rhubarb *purge* ? again you get the oracular response “from its *cathartic properties*,” but when it acts as an *asstringent*, and produces costiveness, where is its *cathartic* power ? Why does

Antimony vomit? the oracle again in *Greek* replies, "from its emetic power;" you are told that it acts as an emetic, because it vomits you. But when it induces sleep, how then does it act? why is it now a *narcotic*? Thus do the learned *regulars* juggle: instead of a *philosophica*. answer, they give you an echo of your own question, taking care however to mystify *you* by rendering it in Greek.

26th. Chrono-Thermalism rejects no earthly agent but the *bleeding lancet*, the *leech*, and the *scarificator*: it has already compelled the Allopathic and *Regular* Academy of Medicine of New York to declare that "*bleeding is never a remedy!*" Are not many of our Allopaths in this vicinity yet Sangrado's?

27th. *Depletion* and *starvation* are alike shown by the teachings of Chrono-Thermalism to be the chief sources of the continuance and perpetuation of disease, profitable only to the physician who thereby multiplies visits and *lengthens* his bill.

28th. Chrono-Thermalism, in the language of the N. Y. Tribune, is "good for the patient, bad for the physician." It employs little medicine, saves an immense amount of suffering—greatly shortens the duration of sickness, and effects an unparalleled reduction in the number of deaths.

29th. In proof of its safety and universality of application, Chrono-Thermalists are ever ready to compare its results, *its numerical cures* with the curative results of all other systems: disease for disease, case for case, period of continuance with period of continuance, expense for expense.

30th. The Chrono-Thermal system appeals from *authority* to *examination*; rejecting antiquated dogmas, it demands *STATISTICS*, and wherever it is thus brought to the test before the bar of common sense we know that judgement will be rendered in its favor by acclamation. Even in that *formidable disease* APPOLEXY, Dr. Copeman, an allopathic physician opposed to our system, admits, that in the *regular practice* where bleeding was universally adopted, *two out of every three* patients died, whilst under Chrono-Thermal treatment *without bleeding* *TWO out of every THREE* recovered. One fact like this *extorted from an opponent*, is of sufficient force to outweigh a thousand slurs, although they may be uttered by Allopaths holding a clerical dispensation, or an Apostolic bull.

31/ No system of medicine can be of universal application which does not recognize the Unity, Integrity, and Periodicity of action of the living organism—or which fails to reconcile the intermittency and periodicity of its functions with the intermittency, periodicity, and thermal changes which mark the revolutions of universal nature: but in both these great truths the "regular schools", are wholly defective; whilst Chrono-Thermalism is in unison with the harmonies of the universe and its laws: it acknowledges every power and principle in nature as available for good or evil upon the living body, and for the cure of disease it avails itself of *all natural* means.

The teachers of any science cannot *now* as they once could—

“—————creep

Profoundly trifling—profitlessly deep—

Treading the steps their sires before them trod,

The past their heaven, Antiquity their God.”

In this country, as in Europe, scarcely a medical work or journal is now issued from the press, that does not—at least indirectly—furnish evidence of the truth of the Chrono-thermal system ; one writer plagiarising its teachings upon one subject, another upon some other ; but we defy these regular plagiarists to produce a single instance, in the writings of *their school*, of any allusion to the Unity, Periodicity, and intermittency of ALL disease, *until after the publication* of Dickson's discovery thereof. Let this fact be remembered—for it is only in keeping with the regular schools,—they first denounce every thing new as *quackery*: *soon* they appropriate the quackery they denounced, and by a piece of plagiaristic juggling they make it regular orthodoxy.

Harvey, who discovered the circulation of the blood in the 17th century, was in his day denounced as a quack, and contemptuously called by the regulars, “the circulator.” He was moreover persecuted by soulless colleges to the day of his death.

Ambrose Pare, in the reign of Francis the First, introduced the ligature, he was the first to tie the arteries. For this great discovery he was denounced as a quack, and expelled from the regular faculty, whilst sage professors ridiculed the idea of risking life upon a thread, when boiling pitch applied to the quivering stumps had stood the test of centuries.

Paracelsus introduced the use of antimony into the practice of medicine ; for this, he was stigmatized as a quack, and the French parliament, at the suggestion of the faculty, passed an act making its administration penal.

The Jesuits introduced the use of Peruvian bark, an invaluable remedy, into England: but being used by the Jesuits, it was at once denounced by the protestant “regular faculty.”

In 1695, Dr. Groenvelt discovered the curative power of Cantharides in Dropsy, No sooner had his cures made him popular, than he was committed to Newgate by warrant of the President of the Royal College of Physicians, as a quack.

Lady Mary Montague introduced inoculation into England, having seen in Turkey its success in mitigating that terrible disease, Small Pox. The faculty, to a man, rose in arms against it, and neither the philanthropy or the sex of Lady Montague could shield her from the most wanton insult and opprobium. (See Wharncliffe's Memoirs.)

The immortal Jenner introduced the priceless boon of VACCINATION: for this he was denounced and ridiculed as a quack, and prohibited from practising his profession in the British Metropolis. And when Boylston introduced Jenner's discovery into the United States, and boldly tested its efficacy and

safcty upon his own son, he was laughed to scorn by the *sapient Boston regulars*, and denounced as a "crazy quack."

Is it said that *these were* the occurrences of the dark days of Allopathy? We admit it! But Allopathy yet dwells in its pristine darkness, for in London, it has in like manner denounced and expelled Dickson, and in New-York, Dr. Turner has met the same fate. From these illustrations you will have learned that colleges and cliques are yet much what mankind was in the days of Solomon, who, after searching the world "returned and saw under the sun, that there was neither bread to the wise, nor riches to men of understanding, nor favor to men of skill." And you will also have come to the conclusion that no truth or system should be condemned or rejected, simply because the regular profession raise the hue and cry of quackery against it.

I need not *now* tell you that *all* these important discoveries, although fiercely denounced as quackery at the period of their introduction have long ago become *regular orthodoxy*: nay more, every thing *true* in the *regular* practice has been stolen from men who in their day were stigmatised as quacks: all the improvements which have ever marked its history, have been forced upon it either by public sentiment, or the inherent power of the great truths which free minds and unshackled men have from time to time proclaimed. Nor will many years pass away ere the doctrines and practice of Chrono-Thermalism will have become the dominant system of medicine throughout the civilized world—and the *regular faculty* will be compelled either to adopt that system, as they have already adopted the circulation of the blood, the use of the ligature, the employment of Bark, *innoculation*, and vaccination—each of which they at first stigmatised as the most *arrant quackery*, or they, being weighed in the scales of an enlightened and advanced public sentiment, will find written upon the walls of their colleges, the significant words—"Mene, Mene, Tekel, Upharsim."

WHAT ALLOPATHY SAYS OF ITSELF.

We cannot better close these brief remarks, than by permitting Allopathy to prove by *its own teachers, professors, and practitioners*, that it is at once a *fallacious, unsatisfactory, and destructive system*.

Says Frank—"thousands are annually slaughtered in the quiet sick room. Governments should at once either banish medical men and proscribe their blundering art, or they should adopt some better means to protect the lives of the people than at present prevail, when they look far less after the practice of this dangerous profession, and the *murders* committed in it, than after the lowest trades."

The eminent Lugol, of Paris, in a lecture delivered before a class of students in 1841, and since published, says, "our want of success in the ordinary means of diagnosticating (understanding disease) proves that those means are inadequate; that we follow *an erroneous course* in our investigations, and that we must resort to some new modes if we desire to be more successful."

Says Dr. Evans, "the medical practice of our day is at best a most uncertain and unsatisfactory system: it has neither philosophy nor common sense to commend it to confidence."

Says the Dublin Medical Journal, of 1842, "Assuredly the uncertain and most unsatisfactory art that we call medical science, *is no science at all*, but a jumble of inconsistent opinions, of conclusions hastily and often incorrectly drawn, of facts misunderstood or perverted, of comparisons without analogy, of hypothesis without reason, and of theories not only useless, but dangerous!"

Says the distinguished Rush, of Philadelphia, "we (speaking for the Regular practice) have done little more, than to multiply diseases, and increase their fatality."

Says Professor Dixon, of New York, one of the magnates of the Allopaths, and the Editor of the Scalpel, "the whole system of practice requires careful remodelling. We yet know but little of the true nature of disease." And he might have added, "still less of the most appropriate mode of treatment."

Thus writes Dr. James Johnson, of the Medico-Chirurgical Review, published in London:

"I declare, my conscientious opinion, founded on long experience and reflection, that if there was not a single physician, surgeon, apothecary, man-midwife, chemist, druggist, nor drug on the face of the earth, there would be less sickness, and less mortality than now prevail."

Says Dr. Bostock, "our actual information or knowledge of diseases, does not increase in proportion to our *experimental* practice: every dose of medicine given by Allopathy, is a blind experiment made upon the vitality of the patient."

Listen to the late Professor Gregory—"Gentlemen, ninety-nine out of every hundred medical facts, are *medical lies*, and medical doctrines are for the most part, stark, staring nonsense."

The great Magendie says, "let us no longer wonder at the lamentable want of success which marks our practice, when there is scarcely a sound physiological principle amongst us."

Hear Dr. Francis Coggswell, of Boston, June 6th, 1843:

"I wish not to detract from the exalted profession to which I may have the honor to belong, and which includes many of my warmest and most valued friends,—yet I cannot answer it to my conscience to withhold the acknowledgement of my firm belief, that *the Medical Profession (with its prevailing mode of practice) is productive of vastly more evil than good: and were it absolutely abolished, mankind would be infinitely the gainer.*

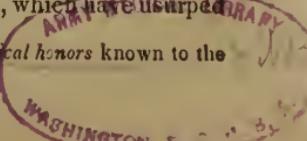
How humiliating soever the confession, I must own that the most of my professional life has been worse than thrown away. I am well aware that my professional brethren will call me presumptive, for daring to question the infallibility of the Allopathic, or common practice, sanctioned by the opinions of seventeen centuries; but I cannot, must not, and will not, shrink from known duty, come what may. I claim the privilege of thinking, speaking, and acting for myself, and shall never allow any man or body of men to be my conscience-holder in medical, religious, or political matters. Since graduating, my experience has been such as to enable me to form a just estimate of the common mode of treatment, and abundantly to satisfy me that it is utterly unsound in *root, trunk and branch*. It is emphatically a guessing system, and the chance of a patient's being *radically* cured by it, is about as great as the chance of drawing a prize from among an hundred blanks. It is to be regretted that society is so enslaved to fashion and custom, that nine in ten would sooner *die fashionably* under the hand of a fashionable practitioner, than consult an unpopular one, even though he knew he would restore them to health. But then it is better to die respectably, and in good taste, than to live and be reproached by one's friends.

Thus testifies Dr. Jamieson, of Edinburgh,—“the present practice of medicine is a reproach to the name of science, while its professors give evidence of an almost total want of the true knowledge of the nature or proper treatment of disease. In most cases, mere symptoms receive the attention of the physician, and from this cause his remedies are seldom of advantage to the patient. I may go further, and say, that nine times out of ten our *miscalled* remedies are absolutely injurious to our patients suffering under diseases of whose real character and cause we are most culpably ignorant.”

Thus writes Dr. Ramage, (a Fellow of the Royal College of Physicians of London*)—“It cannot be denied that the present system of medicine is a burning reproach to its professors, if indeed a series of vague and uncertain incongruities deserve to be called by that name. How rarely do our medicines do good! how often do they make our patients really worse! I fearlessly assert that in most cases the sufferer would be safer without a physician than with one. I have seen enough of the *malpractice* of my professional brethren to warrant the strong language I employ, and I have but too often witnessed the failure of my own experiments in the regular practice; for experiments they must truly be called, where medicines are given in cases where neither the true nature of the disease or the mode of action of the remedy is understood.

Says Wakley in the London Lancet of 1842—“How little do we know, (of disease), compared with what we have yet to learn. Every day develops new views, teaching us that many of what we before thought immutable truths deserved only to be classed with baseless theories; yet, dazzled with the splendor of great names, we adhere to them. On these theories, which have usurped

* A Fellow of the Royal College has attained the highest medical honors known to the British Schools.



the place of truth, a system of *routine*, or *empirical*, practice has grown up, *vacillating, uncertain*, and often *pilotless* in the treatment of disease."

We might multiply such testimony as the foregoing to any extent, by quoting Dewees, Cox, Edwards, Williams, and a host of others,—but we have already produced sufficient witnesses to sustain the direct evidence of Dr. Coggswell, who declares that the Allopathic practice "is utterly unsound in root, trunk and branch."

Such is the testimony of the *most eminent* teachers and practitioners of the Allopathic system; *where then is the safety of that system* as generally practised by those whose knowledge is yet more limited; and who, like the mill horse, treading one ceaseless circle, are circumscribed by the contracted circumference of the schools? "We speak as unto wise men, judge ye."

The writer has in progress, and hopes soon to have ready for the press, "The American Chrono-Thermalist," containing 1st. A complete exposition of the theory and practice of Chrono-Thermalism. 2d. The remedies employed therein—their combinations, doses, and appropriate periods of administration. 3d. Physiology and Hygiene. The American Chrono-Thermalist will be emphatically "a book for the people."

Dr. Kent will be pleased to refer those interested, to some three score cases in his immediate vicinity, CHRONO-THERMALLY CURED, after being pronounced hopeless under other practice.

II. All diseases of the eye and its appendages receive especial attention. References to numerous cases.

The diseases incident to women, particularly Prolapsus Uteri, (or falling of the womb), are peculiarly susceptible of cure under Chrono-Thermal treatment. Ladies may obtain reference to upwards of fifty cases, (many of them in their worst forms), RADICALLY CURED, in most instances in a less number of days than the patient had suffered months or years.